

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1439
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2016
Water Management in Forest
Sahu Shri Lakhan Lal

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has appointed agencies for promoting water management programmes in forest areas for conservation of wild life;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether wild animals are deserting forest and entering rural areas due to acute shortage of water;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has constructed water tanks at various places in forest areas for wild animals; and
- (e) if so, the funds sanctioned for the said purpose during the last two years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) and (b) Water management is the mandate of the state forest department as part of the forest and wildlife management in forest areas. Recently, Ministry has formulated a new scheme 'Augmentation of Fodder & Water Scheme in Protected Areas/Forest Areas' under central component of the fund managed by Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). The scheme is primarily for augmentation of fodder and water sources for herbivores in Protected Area/Forests where degraded habitat is known to be the cause of significant human-wildlife conflict.

(c) Sometimes, especially during hot seasons, due to drying up of natural water sources and scarcity of water within the forests, wild animals are forced to move out from their habitats/territories and enter into nearby villages/ human habitations in search of food and water.

(d) The Ministry, through its Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) namely 'Project Tiger', 'Project Elephant' and 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (IDWH)' provides funds to States and UTs for various activities including creation of artificial ponds, waterholes at various places within forests to make water available for animals. Also, under the scheme 'Augmentation of Fodder and Water Scheme in PAs/Forest areas special emphasis is given on increasing soil and moisture content in the forest areas.

(e) Details of funds released under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) of IDWH, Project Elephant and Project Tiger during last 2 years and in current financial year are given in Annexure. Under the scheme of 'Augmentation of Fodder & Water Scheme in Protected areas/Forest Areas' amount of Rs. 5 Crores has been allocated for augmentation of fodder species and for appropriate soil and moisture conservation works within PAs.
